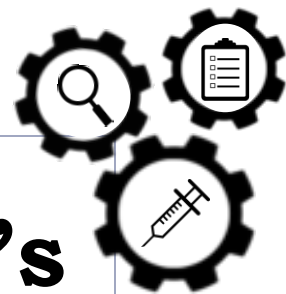


Pandemic Influenza: What's Your Role?



**Maddie Barber
Education Coordinator**

Discussion

- ▶ Pandemic influenza
 - ▶ Background information
 - ▶ Timeline of general response
- ▶ Preparation steps



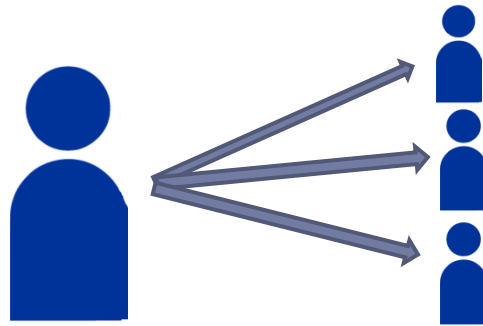
Pandemic Influenza

CDC definition:

An influenza pandemic is a global outbreak of a new Influenza A virus that is very different from current and recently circulating human seasonal influenza A viruses.

Pandemic Influenza Information

- ▶ People are infected easily by the new virus
- ▶ Can occur in “waves of activity”
- ▶ Simultaneous occurrence of outbreaks



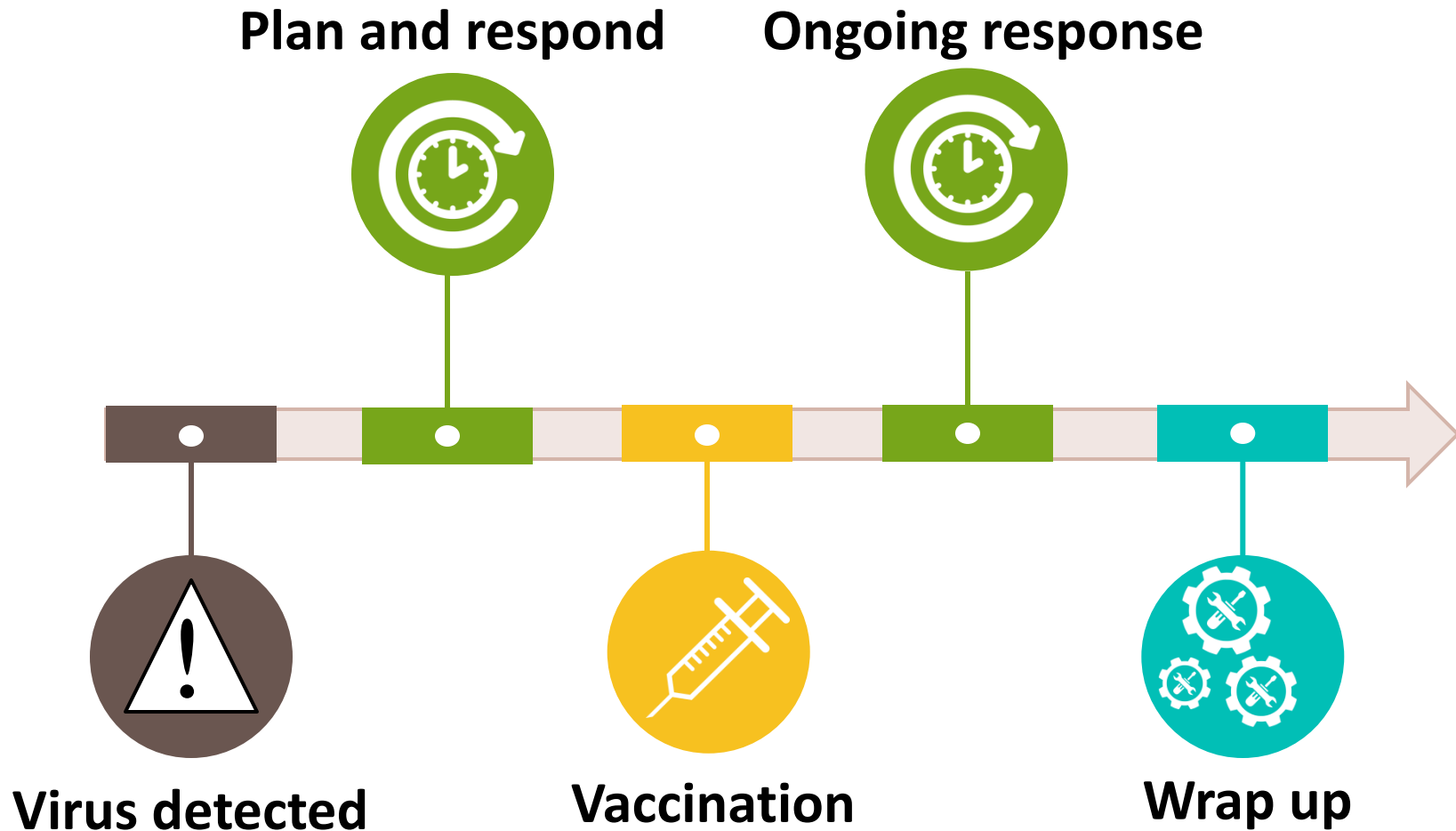
Pandemic Influenza Information

- ▶ Threats to human infrastructure
- ▶ Planning is essential
- ▶ Plans and response tailored to each pandemic



	Seasonal Influenza	Pandemic Influenza
How often does it happen?	Happens annually and usually peaks between December and February	Rarely happens (three times in 20th century)
Will most people be immune?	Usually some immunity from previous exposures and influenza vaccination	Most people have little or no immunity because they have no previous exposure to the virus or similar viruses
Who is at risk for complications?	Certain people are at high-risk for serious complications (infants, elderly, pregnant women, extreme obesity and persons with certain chronic medical conditions)	Healthy people also may be at high risk for serious complications
Will a vaccine be available?	Vaccine available for annual flu season Usually, one dose of vaccine is needed for most people	Vaccine may not be available in the early stages of a pandemic Two doses of vaccine may be needed
How many people could get sick and suffer complications?	Rates of medical visits, complications, hospitalizations and death can vary from low to high	Rates of medical visits, complications, hospitalizations and death can range from moderate to high

Simplified Timeline of Response

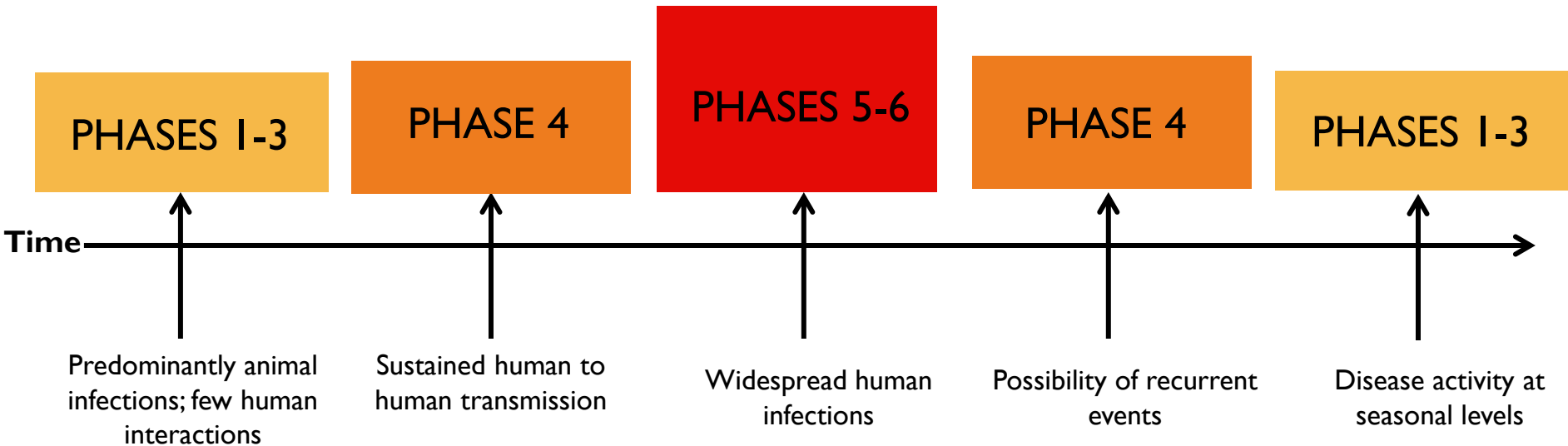


Sporadic Case Detections

- ▶ Influenza A virus strain will most likely emerge in a country other than United States
- ▶ WHO will notify phase changes
- ▶ Increase surveillance for unusual outbreaks of influenza-like illness



Phases of Pandemic Influenza



Response Ramps Up

- ▶ Sustained human-human transmission
- ▶ Issue guidance from federal government to states and partner organizations
- ▶ Increase health messaging to public

Ways to prevent the flu



Get a flu shot



Wash your
hands often



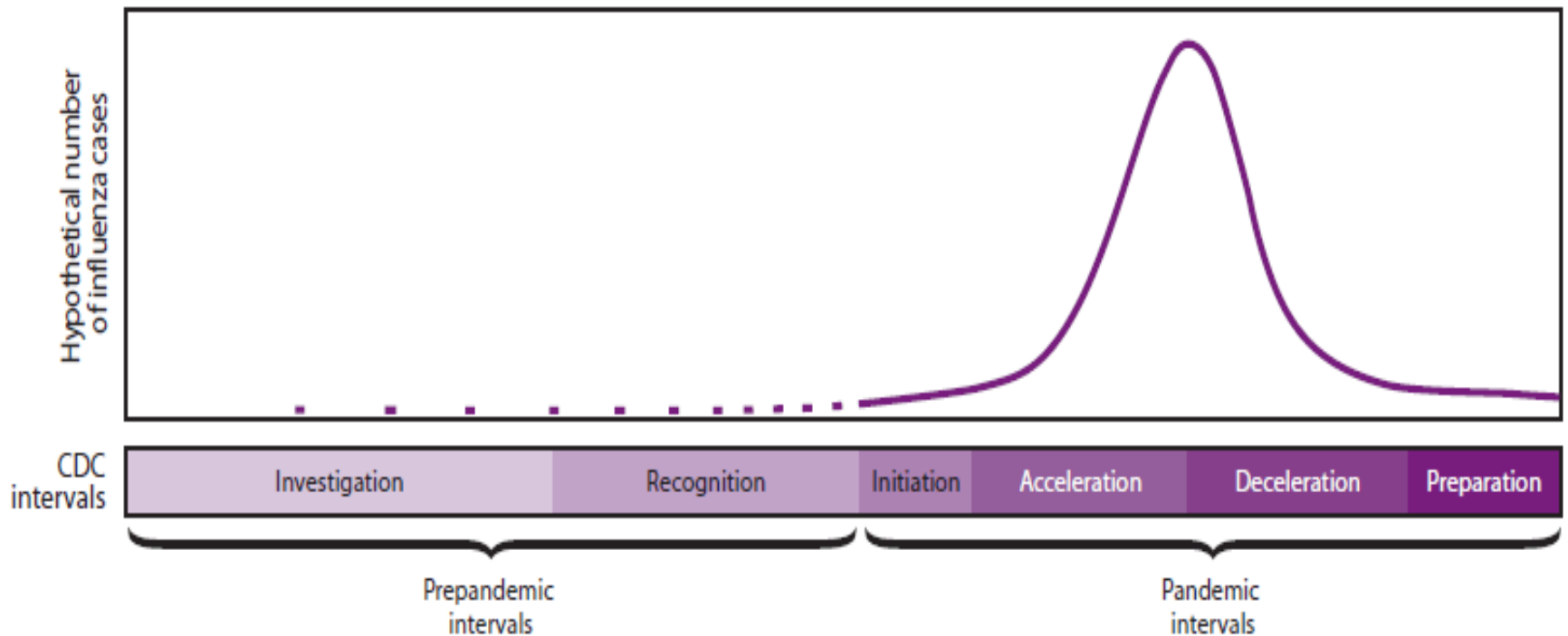
Stay home if
you are sick



Cover your
cough

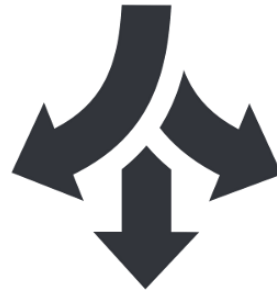


Pandemic Declared



Vaccination Campaign

- ▶ Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices make recommendations
- ▶ Food and Drug Administration approves influenza A vaccine(s)
- ▶ Preparation for vaccine distribution



Vaccination Begins: What We Know

1. A vaccine will be created by manufacturers
2. Vaccine doses will be allocated to states
3. Vaccine doses will be shipped to jurisdictions
4. Vaccination of priority groups will occur first
5. As more vaccine becomes available, more vaccine will be distributed and administered



Ongoing Response Activities

- ▶ Continue communication with patients/public
- ▶ Continue vaccination with increased supply of vaccine
- ▶ Continue surveillance for additional waves of activity



Activity Subsides

- ▶ Disease activities at seasonal levels
- ▶ Return of normal social interaction
- ▶ Review and revise plans



How can your clinic prepare?



How can your clinic prepare?

Your clinic is already preparing!

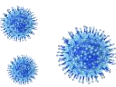


Identifying High-Risk Groups

How are high-risk patients in your clinic identified and reminded about the flu vaccine each year?



Identifying High-Risk Groups

 *How are high-risk patients in your clinic identified and reminded about the flu vaccine each year?*

- ▶ Identified high-risk groups for seasonal influenza
- ▶ High-risk patients (and everyone over 6 months) should be vaccinated against influenza each year



Seasonal Influenza High-Risk Groups

- Children younger than five
 - Adults 65+
 - Pregnant women
 - American Indians and Alaskan Natives
 - People who have certain medical conditions including:
 - Asthma
 - Neurological and neurodevelopmental conditions
 - Chronic lung disease
 - Heart disease
 - Blood disorders
 - Endocrine disorders
 - Kidney disorders
 - Liver disorders
 - Metabolic disorders
 - Weakened immune system due to disease or medication
 - People younger than 19 years of age who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy
 - People with extreme obesity (body mass index of 40 or more)
-



Storing Vaccine



Is your clinic's vaccine storage unit at maximum capacity?



Storing Vaccine



Is your clinic's vaccine storage unit at maximum capacity?

- ▶ Adequate space in storage units
- ▶ Temperature monitoring procedures
- ▶ Pre-identified back-up storage unit locations



Vaccine Inventory

How does your clinic track vaccine doses?



Vaccine Inventory

How does your clinic track vaccine doses?



- ▶ Vaccine inventory in imMTrax
 - ▶ Record and report doses administered
- ▶ Patient lists can be generated
 - ▶ Electronic health record
 - ▶ imMTrax
 - ▶ Manually



Communicating Information

How does your clinic communicate information to patients?



Communicating Information

How does your clinic communicate information to patients?



- ▶ Remind and recall patients for additional dose
- ▶ Coincide messaging with partner organizations

Other

- ▶ Plan, coordinate or volunteer at off-site flu clinics
- ▶ Established partnerships in your community
 - ▶ Annual collaboration to vaccinate against seasonal influenza



State Activities

- ▶ **Working with Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program**
 - ▶ Examples: participating in statewide vaccination exercises and state pandemic influenza plan
- ▶ **Working with Local Health Departments**
 - ▶ Examples: identify how partners plan/advertise community immunization projects and identify pharmacies as complementary immunization providers
- ▶ **Working with Vaccines for Children Providers**
 - ▶ Examples: vaccine storage and handling and imMTrax data entry



In Summary

- ▶ Response activities for the next influenza pandemic could be very similar or different from previous influenza pandemics
- ▶ Preparing for the next influenza pandemic is on-going and important
- ▶ Everyone has a role in preparing and responding for an influenza pandemic





Questions?

mbarber@mt.gov

444-4560

